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MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT.

RICHMOND, VA., February 8, 1864.

To the House of Representatives:

In response to your resolution of the 12th ultimo, I herewith transmit for your information a communication from the Secretary of War, stating that the records of the War Office "do not show any authority granted to raise troops of conscript age, except in localities where the operation of the conscript law has been suspended, or from the control of the enemy it cannot be enforced."

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA,
War Department,
Richmond, Va., January 28, 1864.

To the President of the Confederate States:

SIR: I have received the following resolution of the House of Representatives, referred by your Excellency to this Department:

"*Resolved*, That the President be requested to inform this House whether authority has been granted by the War Department to any person or persons to raise new companies, battalions or regiments of troops since September 27, 1862, in portions of the country in which the conscript law has not been suspended by the President; and further, if such authority has been granted, to whom and in how many instances it has been granted, and how many companies, battalions or regiments have been raised under such authority."

In response, I have the honor to transmit herewith a letter from the Adjutant General, stating that the records of his office do not show any authority granted to raise troops of conscript age, except in

localities where the operation of the conscript law has been suspended, or from the control of the enemy it cannot be enforced. All special authorities to raise troops have been issued through the office of the Adjutant General.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA, WAR DEPARTMENT,
Adjutant and Inspector General's Office,
Richmond, Va., January 28, 1864.

To the Hon. Secretary of War:

SIR: In response to the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 12th instant, requesting to be informed whether authority has been granted by the War Department to any person or persons to raise new companies, battalions or regiments of troops since September 27th, 1862, in portions of the country in which the conscript law has not been suspended by the President, I have the honor to inform you that the records of this office do not contain any authority to raise troops of conscript age, except in localities where the operation of the conscript law has been suspended, or from the control of the enemy it cannot be enforced.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

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